

COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

Small Town Service

Community Stewardship

uture Focus

TITLE: Long Term Debt Policy

POLICY NUMBER: 4-01

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/2/16

PAGES: 3

ENABLING ACTIONS: 2016-062

REVISED DATES:

APPROVED:

PURPOSE

The Long Term Debt Policy sets forth certain debt management objectives for the Town and establishes overall parameters for issuing and administering the debt for which the Town is financially obligated or is responsible for managing.

SCOPE

The following long term debt policy sets the considerations for issuing debt and provides guidance in the timing and structuring of long term debt commitments.

POLICY

GENERAL PRACTICES

- 1. The Town will seek to maintain and improve the current bond rating in order to minimize borrowing costs and preserve access to credit.
- 2. Bond issue proposals are to be accompanied by an analysis defining how the new issue, combined with current debt, impacts the Town's debt capacity and conformance with Town debt policies.
- Debt Service costs [General Obligation (GO) Bond, Certificate of Participation (COP), Revenue Bond, and Contractual Debt] are not to exceed 25% of the Town's operating revenue.
- 4. A ratio of current assets to current liabilities of at least 2/1 will be maintained to ensure the Town's ability to pay short-term obligations.

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THE TOWN WILL CONSIDER THE ISSUANCE OF LONG TERM OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- 1. The Town will use debt financing only for one-time capital improvement projects and unusual equipment purchases, and only under the following circumstances:
 - a. When the project is included in the Town's five-year capital improvement program and is in conformance with the Town's General Plan.
 - b. When the project is not included in the Town five-year capital improvement plan, but it is an emerging critical need whose timing was not anticipated in the five-year capital improvement program, or it is a project mandated immediately by State or Federal requirements.
 - c. When the project's useful life, or the projected service life of the equipment, will be equal to or exceed the term of the financing.
 - d. When there are designated revenues sufficient to service the debt, whether from project revenues, other specified and reserved resources, or infrastructure costsharing revenues.
 - e. Debt financing (other than tax and revenue anticipation notes) is not considered appropriate for any recurring purpose such as current operating and maintenance expenditures.
- 2. The costs of developing and maintaining the Successor Agency to the Town of Los Gatos Redevelopment Agency (Agency) long term debt policy will be borne by the Agency and will be developed in conjunction with amendments to existing redevelopment project area plans and/or new proposals to issue debt by the Successor Agency to the Town of Los Gatos Redevelopment Agency.
- 3. The Town will follow all State and Federal regulations and requirements regarding bond provisions, issuance, taxation and disclosure.
- 4. Costs incurred by the Town, such as bond counsel and financial advisor fees, printing, underwriters' discount, and project design and construction costs, will be charged to the bond issue to the extent allowable by law.
- The Town will monitor compliance with bond covenants and adhere to federal arbitrage and disclosure regulations.

PROCEDURES

This Long Term Debt Policy shall be adopted by resolution of the Town Council. The Treasurer shall present this Long Term Debt Policy as needed to the Town Council for review to ensure its

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consistency with the Town's long term debt objectives, and current law. Any amendments to this Long Term Debt Policy shall be approved by the Town Council.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert Schultz, Town Attorney